

Testimony of

Laura Martino

Old Saybrook Educator

Before the

Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

Dear legislators, Your passage of HB 6884 would benefit education in Connecticut in landmark ways. Recognizing the round-the-clock hours that my colleagues and I put into supporting our students during the two school years of COVID would make an enormous difference to us as professionals. Ensuring Kindergartners be at least 5 years old when beginning school would ensure a more solid start and journey for them and their educators. I deeply appreciate your taking into account that this bill would solidify the education system in our state in myriad ways.

Sincerely,

Laura Martino Certified CT teacher Old Saybrook, CT

